

PROCESS AND RATIONAL

PRE-FIELD REVIEW or FIELD RECONNAISSANCE: (Level of survey and findings)

The following threatened or sensitive species have potential habitat and will be discussed in detail:

Northern Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*): Threatened (USFWS), Threatened (BLM OR & WA), Threatened (State): Bald eagle nest sites and winter roosts occur in the general area surrounding this project. Both are greater than ¼ mile from the areas where fence construction activities will occur. The NF Crooked River also has potential for use as occasional foraging habitat. No formal surveys have been done.

Northern Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*): Sensitive (BLM OR & WA): Goshawk nesting home ranges cover approximately 420 acres (includes the nest site, foraging area, and post-fledging family area) (Reynolds et al. 1991). Goshawks prefer open stands for foraging activities; however, for nesting they require canopy closures for protection for the weather and other raptor species. Goshawk nesting habitat is generally found with ¼ mile of a spring or smaller order stream. These sites provide higher canopy cover for nesting due to higher growth potential. The analysis area contains limited habitat that could be used for reproduction. The entire planning area has foraging potential. No sightings have been recorded in the analysis area. Formal surveys have not been conducted.

American Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus anatum*): Sensitive (BLM OR), Endangered (State): The project area does not have the necessary nesting structures, but could function as foraging habitat. No sightings have been recorded in the analysis area.

Flammulated Owl (*Otus flammeolus*): Sensitive (BLM OR), Critical (State): Flammulated owl utilizes open forests that have a ponderosa pine component, but has been found in Douglas-fir requiring fairly large trees for roosting with grassland or meadows in the area. Flammulated owls nest in abandoned woodpecker holes or natural tree cavities (Csuti et al., 1997). The project area contains habitat with the potential for reproductive and foraging habitat. Reproductive habitat is best in the upper elevations of the project area. There are several small meadows and open shrub land between the forested draws. Formal surveys have not been done. No sightings have been recorded in the analysis area.

Northern Pygmy Owl (*Glaucidium gnoma*): Sensitive (BLM OR): The Northern Pygmy-owl is found in mixed coniferous-deciduous forests, riparian woodlands, and drier woodlands including ponderosa pine. Pygmy-owls use abandoned woodpecker holes for nesting and hunt in open areas within the forest matrix (Csuti et al., 1997). Reproductive habitat is best in the upper elevations of the project area. There are several small meadows and open shrub land between the forested draws. Formal surveys have not been done. No sightings have been recorded in the analysis area.

White-headed Woodpecker (*Picoides albolarvatus*): Sensitive (BLM OR): White-headed woodpeckers are closely associated with ponderosa pine and mixed conifer forest with relatively large trees and snags characteristic of older forests (Csuti et al., 1997). The low numbers of large diameter ponderosa pine trees reduces the likelihood the analysis area is being used by white-headed woodpeckers. The project area does have marginal reproductive and foraging habitat. Formal surveys have not been done.

Lewis' Woodpecker (*Melanerpes lewis*): Lewis' woodpeckers use open forests at lower elevations. They occur mainly in white oak-pine, Ponderosa pine, and cottonwood riparian woodlands in river valleys. Abandoned woodpecker holes and other cavities are used for nesting.

Pygmy Nuthatch (*Sitta pygmaea*): Sensitive (BLM OR): In Oregon the pygmy nuthatch utilizes mature ponderosa pine woodlands with less than 70% canopy closure and adequate large (average 20" dbh) ponderosa pine snags (Csuti et al., 1997). The project area contains limited habitat with the potential for reproductive and foraging habitat. Formal surveys have not been done. No sightings have been recorded in the analysis area.

Townsend's big eared bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii*): Sensitive (BLM OR & WA), Category II (USFWS): Maternity and hibernacula sites are associated with caves, mines, lava tubes, and buildings. Rimrock, cliffs, bridges, boulder fields, and bark of large trees have the potential to be used as day roosts. The analysis area has no known maternity roost or hibernacula sites. Openings in timbered areas with standing water association are prime foraging opportunities for Townsend's big-eared bats. Bats are known to travel long distances to foraging sites, so the analysis area has the potential to be used as a foraging area. Formal surveys have not been conducted.

Greater Sage Grouse (*Centrocercus urophasianus*): Sage grouse use areas dominated by big sagebrush with cover 15 to 50%. All documented populations have been identified and recorded at locations that are located to the south, away from the proposed fence installation. Potential does exist for an occasional sage grouse to access the South Fork of the Crooked River in the project area.